



CONNECTICUT

**TESTIMONY OF
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS (NFIB)
BY
ANDY MARKOWSKI, CONNECTICUT STATE DIRECTOR
SUPPORTING
HB-5090, AAC THE LEGISLATURE'S IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE
BEFORE THE
LABOR & PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 19, 2013**

A non-profit, non-partisan organization founded in 1943, NFIB is Connecticut's and the nation's leading small-business association. In Connecticut, NFIB represents thousands of members and their employees and membership is scattered across the state and ranges from sophisticated high technology enterprises to single-person "Mom & Pop" shops that operate in traditional ways. NFIB's mission is "To promote and protect the right of its members to own, operate, and grow their businesses." On behalf of those small- and independent- job-providers in Connecticut, I offer the following comments:

NFIB/Connecticut supports this bill, which will help the legislature determine the impact of legislation on employment in Connecticut. Unfortunately, Connecticut has witnessed a record number of job losses and businesses are continuing to close their doors. While this can be attributed to a variety of economic woes, certainly state legislation can and indeed does have an impact on or correlation to these declines.

This bill will help shine a spotlight on Connecticut's legislative process and result in a better understanding and full analysis of the impact legislative policymaking will have on employment in Connecticut, and thus small business, our state's primary job-creators. Most importantly, the aforementioned legislation will hopefully go a long way to providing for a "preventative look" or comprehensive analyses of the projected impact proposed legislation will have on small business BEFORE it is enacted. This is a common sense approach that not only provides for additional transparency in the legislative process, but can also ultimately result in better drafted and administered legislation.

Additionally, NFIB/Connecticut suggests that this legislation when fully drafted include language that the statements, shall, where possible, include a breakdown of the employment impact specifically on the small business sector.

We are encouraged by bills such as HB-5090 which will allow lawmakers and public officials to take steps to improve our competitiveness and reject measures that will make it more costly to do business and harm our economy. Too often, laws and regulations are passed without regard for their impact on Connecticut's business climate and workers. NFIB urges support for this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and NFIB/Connecticut urges passage of HB-5090.